

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 704

To require the general application of the antitrust laws to major league baseball, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 1997

Mr. BUNNING (for himself and Mr. Conyers) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require the general application of the antitrust laws to
major league baseball, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Major League Baseball
5 Antitrust Reform Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF THE ANTITRUST LAWS TO PRO-**
7 **FESSIONAL MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL.**

8 The Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12 et seq.) is amended
9 by adding at the end the following new section:

1 “SEC. 27. (a) Subject to subsection (b), the antitrust
2 laws shall apply to the business of professional major
3 league baseball.

4 “(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to af-
5 fect—

6 “(1) the applicability or nonapplicability of the
7 antitrust laws to professional baseball’s amateur
8 draft, the minor league reserve clause, the Profes-
9 sional Baseball Agreement, or any other matter re-
10 lating to the minor leagues;

11 “(2) the applicability or nonapplicability of the
12 antitrust laws to any restraint by professional base-
13 ball on franchise relocation; or

14 “(3) the application of Public Law 87–331 (15
15 U.S.C. 1291 et seq.) (commonly known as the
16 Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961).”.

○